

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE YEARLY REVIEW

2012

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AGRICULTURE

IS OUR WISEST PURSUIT, BECAUSE
IT WILL IN THE END CONTRIBUTE
MOST TO REAL WEALTH, GOOD
MORALS, AND HAPPINESS.
-THOMAS JEFFERSON, 1787



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Friends of Agriculture,

Our state has a great tradition in agriculture and we take great pride in having built upon the strength of our farm families. From establishing Missouri's first farms in the 1700s to the statue of Ceres atop the Capitol to bringing the finest livestock exhibition west of the Mississippi River to Sedalia for the first Missouri State Fair, the men and women of agriculture led the way and continue to move us forward. Missouri farmers have always prided themselves in being the economic engine for local communities and throughout our state, and they are key to our future.

Today, Missouri is a leader across a wide spectrum of agricultural production, including cattle, corn, horses, soybeans and black walnuts. Moreover, we are a world leader in technology, plant science and animal health, thanks in no small part to the hard work of our producers, processors and researchers. While we have faced great challenges, including record-breaking drought, over the past year, we have continued to do great things in our communities, for our state and for the long-term success of agriculture in Missouri.

As future generations step forward to take over our more than 100,000 family-run farms and agribusinesses, and as today's young people become our industry leaders, they will build on our proud heritage, while also embracing the latest research and technology. Missouri farm families, agribusinesses and educators will continue to lead the way in feeding, fueling and clothing the world and will ensure Missouri's place as an international agricultural powerhouse for centuries to come.

We must continue to value our rich agricultural foundation and strengthen Missouri's place as a leader in innovation and production and as a growing competitor in the global marketplace. I hope that you will join me in making the most of Missouri's outstanding tradition, strength and potential for agricultural excellence.

Sincerely,



Dr. Jon Hagler
Missouri Director of Agriculture



OVERVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENT

From the rice and cotton fields of Missouri's Bootheel to the rolling pastures of northwest Missouri to the research and processing facilities in the State's urban areas, agriculture is central to the livelihood and lifestyle of Missourians. In addition to the outstanding agricultural production in rural communities, Missouri's cities have earned worldwide recognition as centers for plant, life science and animal health research. St. Louis, Kansas City, St. Joseph and Springfield are home to numerous manufacturers and processing companies that add value to Missouri's agricultural output. In fact, studies suggest that half of the jobs tied to the food export trade are located in cities.

Missouri ranks second in the nation in the number of farms and Missouri's crops, livestock, processing and other agricultural sectors account for about \$14 billion each year. More than 240,000 Missourians are directly employed on farms and in agribusinesses. That number rises to 400,000, or 15 percent of Missouri's workforce, when adding food processors and other industries that contribute to the value to agricultural products. Missouri also ranks second nationwide in beef cows, second in hay production, third in horses, fourth in rice, seventh in soybeans, ninth in corn and tenth in cotton. Missouri exports more agricultural products than 34 other states.

MISSOURI
IS THE PLACE WHERE
AGRICULTURE
DOES BUSINESS.



Agriculture's reach extends even farther in Missouri. Every motorist in the state benefits from Missouri's ethanol industry as 10 percent of every gallon of gasoline sold in the state comes from agriculture. At the forefront of alternative energy, Missouri is also home to biodiesel plants and has the only farmer-owned biomass facility in the nation. Consumers rely on the Missouri Department of Agriculture to certify commercial scales, gasoline pumps, fuel quality and even the meters in taxicabs.

In terms of international trade and exports, Missouri agriculture is another area of growth and the State's agricultural exports are as diverse as its

producers and processors. Soybeans are Missouri's largest exported commodity, with about 50 percent of the crop exported each year, almost \$1.4 billion value last year. Missouri's agricultural products are exported throughout the world, including Mexico, China, Canada, Japan and the European Union, which receive the bulk of Missouri's exported agricultural products.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE STAFF



Dr. Jon Hagler
Director of Agriculture



Dennis Baird
Deputy Director of
Agriculture



Jennifer Alexander
Executive Assistant to the
Director



Michael Warrick
General Counsel



Loyd Wilson
Senior Policy Advisor



Christine Tew
Communications
Director



Alan Clements
Fiscal Manager



Robin Perso
Director of Budget
& Planning



Makele Ndessokia
Human Resources
Manager



Rachel Mobley
Director of Ag Business
Development



Linda Hickam
State Veterinarian
Director of Animal
Health



Chris Klenklen
Director of Grain
Inspection &
Warehousing



Judy Grundler
Director of Plant
Industries



Ron Hayes
Director of Weights,
Measures & Consumer
Protection



Jane McIntosh
Grants Manager



Gene Wiseman
Executive Director of
the State Milk Board



Tony Stafford
Executive Director of
MASBDA



Jim Anderson
Executive Director of
Missouri Wine & Grape
Board



Mark Wolfe
Director of the Missouri
State Fair

SPECIAL EVENTS & INITIATIVES

2012 Focus on Missouri Agriculture Photo Contest

The whimsical image of a boy enjoying a quick drink of water from an old-fashioned outdoor water pipe was selected as the Best of Show in the 2012 Focus on Missouri Agriculture Photo Contest, sponsored by the Missouri Department of Agriculture. The photograph, submitted by Mallory Mullally of Raytown, was chosen out of more than 700 photos submitted by amateur photographers from all regions of Missouri. The winning photos were displayed in the Agriculture Building at the Missouri State Fair and are now available online at mda.mo.gov.

Best of Show:

"Water Break" by Mallory Mullally of Raytown



Children's Barnyard

First Place: "Farm Boys Road" by Chesney Aulgur of Gilliam
Runner Up: "Frog in the Pond" by Blake Aulgur of Gilliam
Hon. Mention: "Color Doesn't Matter" by Whitney Buetcher of Tuscumbia
Hon. Mention: "Barnyard Buzzards" by Lauren Sullivan of Clinton

WINNER-CHILDREN'S BARNYARD

Faces of the Farm:

First Place: "Gonna Be A Farmer" by Heather Aulgur of Gilliam
Runner Up: "Missouri Muleskinner" by Chasity Jensen of Liberal
Hon. Mention: "Seeds of the Earth" by Helena Ballmann of Augusta
Hon. Mention: "Watermelon and Giggles" by Heather Aulgur of Gilliam

The Beauty of the Farm

First Place: "Morning Feed" by Marcy Mason of Princeton
Runner Up: "Black and White Early Morning Snowstorm" by Jeremy Dixon of Eldon
Hon. Mention: "Three Lovely Longhorns" by Donna Lindahl of Amity
Hon. Mention: "Favorite Barn" by Janice Gunter Moss of West Plains

The Farmer's Life:

First Place: "Mom's Ride" by Ella Snelson of St. James
Runner Up: "Playing in the Feed Trough" by Heather Aulgur of Gilliam
Hon. Mention: "Bailing It Up" by Lisa Harke of Old Monroe
Hon. Mention: "Feeding Time" by Jennifer Tollison of Dixon

The Pride of the Farm:

First Place: "Wheat Harvest Time" by Trinnade Hughes of Nevada
Runner Up: "Semi-Retirement" by Crystal Gudgell of Meadville
Hon. Mention: "Farm Truck" by Emily Curtis of Thompson
Hon. Mention: "Taking a Break" by Laurie Link of Meadville



BEST OF SHOW



WINNER-BEAUTY OF THE FARM



WINNER-FACES OF THE FARM



WINNER-PRIDE OF THE FARM



WINNER-FARMER'S LIFE

SPECIAL EVENTS & INITIATIVES

Disaster Response - Drought

Missouri farmers, farm families and agricultural producers faced drought this year, with conditions that were both drier and warmer than average. The extremely dry conditions affected not only crops, but also livestock producers' ability to provide hay and water for their animals. MDA created a one-stop shop for connecting with those resources online, including the latest information from the U.S. Drought Monitor, tips for caring for livestock in the heat of summer and a list of counties' disaster declarations.

Under the leadership of Gov. Jay Nixon, the Department focused on helping producers get the resources they needed to care for their livestock and crops. Department staff dedicated hundreds of hours to meeting with farmers and ranchers and evaluating the more than 11,000 applications Missourians submitted for assistance through the emergency cost-share program, which covered 90 percent of the cost of approved projects.



Completed Farm Tours & Market Visits:

Audrain County	Moniteau County
Atchison County	Newton County
Greene County	Pettis County
Henry County	Polk County
Joplin Regional Stockyards	Springfield Livestock Market
Kingsville Livestock Market	Texas County
Lewis County	United Producers, Inc.

11,000 APPLICATIONS

WERE SUBMITTED BY MISSOURI FARMERS AND RANCHERS, ALL OF WHICH WERE EVALUATED BY STATE STAFF MEMBERS WITHIN A LITTLE OVER TWO MONTHS TIME.



SPECIAL EVENTS & INITIATIVES

2012 Missouri Governor's Conference on Agriculture

The 43rd Missouri Governor's Conference on Agriculture welcomed more than 40 state and national speakers and hundreds of guests to Kansas City in January. The celebration of Missouri agriculture kicked off January 19 at the Westin Crown Center with the Taste of AgriMissouri welcome reception featuring some of Missouri's greatest locally grown and raised food, as well as local musicians.



Friday

The Conference opened early the next morning with an official welcome from Missouri's Director of Agriculture, Dr. Jon Hagler and United States Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II. The day included in-depth discussion of the co-existence of conventional, organic and genetically engineered food production and an update on legal issues facing the agriculture industry. Following lunch with University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe, afternoon sessions explored growing demand for food production, agricultural research and education. The day ended with a meal of Kansas City-style BBQ and an auction benefitting the 4-H, FFA, ALOT and AFA programs for youth and young professionals in agriculture.



Saturday

The Conference also hosted Brigadier General John R. McMahon of the US Army Corps of Engineers, Tom Waters of the Missouri Levee & Drainage District Association, Richard Oswald of Missouri Farmers Union, Rob Korff of the Missouri Corn Merchandising Council and Blake Hurst of Missouri Farm Bureau for a very popular session titled "Managing Missouri's Rivers for Agriculture."

Missouri Governor Jay Nixon concluded the Conference Saturday evening with an awards presentation, in which he recognized Missouri's AgriMissouri Member of the Year, Mom's Originals of St. Louis, and Missouri's Agricultural Communicator of the Year, Brian Sowers of KMMO Radio in Marshall. Gov. Nixon also recognized Dr. Terry Heiman as Missouri's Agricultural Educator of the Year and Steve Pierce of RIBUS, Inc. as Missouri's Agricultural Exporter of the Year.

The Conference ended with a special performance by country music star Mark Chesnutt.



HELD IN KANSAS CITY, 2012 WAS THE FIRST TIME THE GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON AGRICULTURE WAS HELD ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE STATE.

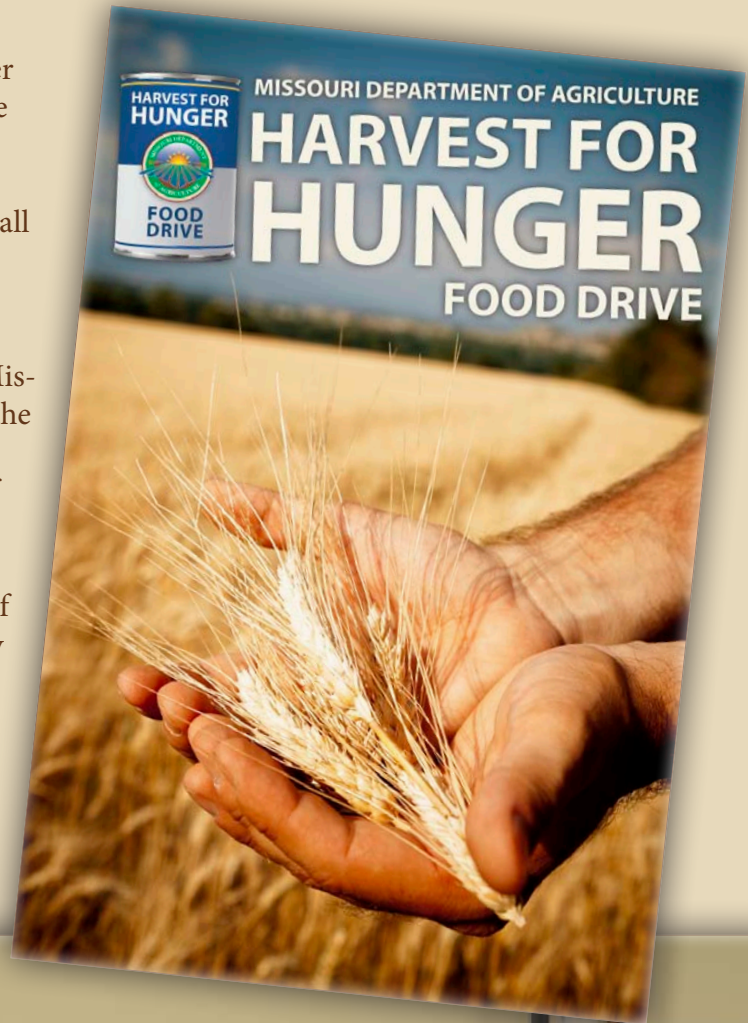
SPECIAL EVENTS & INITIATIVES

Harvest for Hunger Food Drive

The Department of Agriculture kicked off the Harvest for Hunger Food Drive in December 2011 with a donation of non-perishable items and a cash donation of over \$1,000, benefiting food banks across the state. Throughout the winter months, the Department accepted donations at its office in Jefferson City and encouraged all Missourians to donate both fresh and nonperishable food items.

The program concluded amid more than 7,000 pounds of food donated by employees and a nearly \$20,000 contribution from Missouri farmers. Director of Agriculture Dr. Jon Hagler presented the donation to Scott Baker of the Missouri Food Bank Association and Frank Finnegan of the St. Louis Area Foodbank on behalf of Missouri agriculture.

The donation included 300 cases, approximately 2,000 pounds, of CareFast, a soy protein-based nutritional supplement donated by Missouri Farmers Care, a partnership group including the Missouri Soybean Association and many of the state's other agricultural organizations. CareFast includes Lunasin, a supplement developed at the Missouri Plant Science Center in Mexico, Mo. by a research team from Soy Labs LLC that has been shown to reduce cholesterol and lower the risk of heart disease.



Foodbank
St. Louis Area Foodbank



SPECIAL EVENTS & INITIATIVES

International Marketing, Trade & Exports

Missouri's exports have continued to increase, growing by more than 35 percent in 2012. Agricultural products account for a large portion of that growth, and the Department's business development team works to ensure that growth continues well into the future. The team promotes Missouri-made and Missouri-grown products throughout the world, by providing technical assistance and marketing guidance to companies in Missouri, as well as networking with buyers through international trade missions, professional groups and government agencies.



Missouri is the world's largest producer of black walnuts. Confectioners from the country were particularly interested in importing Missouri's high-quality walnuts and pecans.

Brazil

The Department participated in a trade mission to Brazil in April, led by Governor Jay Nixon. Industry leaders identified a key market for value-added agricultural exports within Brazil's developing consumer market.

China

In June, staff from the business development team represented Missouri's wine industry alongside Stone Hill Winery of Hermann at the TOP Wine show in Beijing, China. White wine varietals were front-and-center at the show, and the team saw outstanding interest in Missouri wines and potential for growth in Missouri's exports to China.

Russia

Director of Agriculture Dr. Jon Hagler traveled to Russia in December as a member of the USDA Agribusiness Trade Mission led by Undersecretary Michael Scuse. The group met with businesses in Moscow and St. Petersburg and identified many opportunities for Missouri's livestock and crop genetics, educational programs and products – including black walnuts and pecans.

Vietnam

In December, the Department assisted companies exploring trade opportunities in Vietnam. Staff traveled with companies focused on exporting packaged foods to meet with Vietnamese importers and supermarket chains, as well as to tour Vietnamese markets to learn more about their potential consumers.

Taiwan

Also in December, the business development team attended the Taipei Building and Construction Expo in Taiwan. During the event, Taiwanese furniture buyers were able to learn more about Missouri wood products, including Eastern Red Cedar, and processing companies interested in exporting both raw materials and finished products.



Dr. Hagler (second from the right) was invited to travel with USDA Undersecretary Michael Scuse (fourth from the left) to Russia to investigate potential exporting opportunities to Russia's growing market.

SPECIAL EVENTS & INITIATIVES

The Great Missouri Buzz Off!

The power of pollinators, specifically bees, was on display this year as Missouri Director of Agriculture Dr. Jon Hagler launched The Great Missouri Buzz Off!, an educational and promotional initiative designed to provide Missourians with the tools and resources they need to add bees to their fruit, vegetable and flower gardens. The Department partnered with Missouri beekeepers and beekeeping organizations, as well as the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Saint Louis Zoo to raise awareness of the importance of bees.



To help more Missourians get growing with bees, the Department added a new section to the AgriMissouri.com website dedicated to The Great Missouri Buzz Off. The new section included resources for those interested in learning more about bees, beekeeping and connecting beginners with information and guidance needed for a successful beekeeping venture.



Military Appreciation Day at the Missouri State Fair

Missouri servicemen and women, Governor Jay Nixon, Director of Agriculture Dr. Jon Hagler and military leaders joined for a special tribute to our armed services at the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia. The 2012 Military Appreciation Day paid tribute to men and women in uniform, with a special focus on the Tuskegee Airmen. Thousands of fairgoers attended the ceremony, which was held in the Mathewson Exhibit Hall.

In addition to discounted admission and the official ceremony, the third annual Military Appreciation Day also included a gathering of military and veterans' organizations throughout the day in the fairgrounds' Show Me Tent. Military equipment and apparel, including robots, bomb suits, a tank and the Army National Guard Motorcycle built by Orange County Choppers were also displayed in the tent.

MAESTRO/Energize Missouri Agriculture

The Missouri Department of Agriculture announced in 2011 that free technical assistance is available for Missouri livestock producers installing energy efficient equipment on their farms thanks to an energy program called MAESTRO – The Missouri Agricultural Energy Saving Team-A Revolutionary Opportunity. The MAESTRO program continued through 2012, looking at ways to save energy on farm operations and farm residences through the installation of energy efficient equipment. Since its launch last year, the program has helped many farms and farm homes become more energy efficient through one-on-one technical assistance and support. Program incentives include free technical assistance, energy management plans, home energy audits and loan buy down and loan guarantee opportunities.

SPECIAL EVENTS & INITIATIVES

Food Safety Council

In addition to a renewed internal focus on raising awareness of food safety issues and opportunities to better educate producers, processors and regulatory officials, the Missouri Department of Agriculture joined the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services in receiving three grants this year to create new training opportunities related to preventing the spread of disease, improving sanitation and educating processors on best practices for handling agricultural products, from fresh produce to poultry.

Grants

- The Missouri Food Safety Council Initiative, which provides the Missouri Department of Agriculture \$300,000 over three years to train producers as well as state and local staff to assess processing facilities for potential food safety risks, establish control points, implement safety plans and respond to food safety emergencies within processing and packaging facilities.
- The Food Production Rapid Response Teams grant funds will be used to provide workshops and other hands-on exercises for individuals likely to be called upon in the event of an emergency, such as a natural disaster or an outbreak of food borne illness.
- The Missouri Egg Farm Compliance Program funds provided \$37,000 to expand efforts within the Missouri Department of Agriculture to train poultry and egg producers on best practices for preventing Salmonella Enteritidis from contaminating eggs on the farm and from further growth during storage and transportation.



Farm Safety

The Missouri Department of Agriculture partnered with the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to bring an educational campaign on food safety around the farm to the Missouri State Fair. The State Fair brought more than 350,000 visitors to the Fairgrounds, many of whom visited the interactive Farm Safety display in the Mizzou Central building - including Governor Jay Nixon, who made a special stop to recognize the group for their hard work. Volunteers led demonstrations promoting on-the-farm safety in many different settings. Daily activities at the booth included presentations and hands-on exhibits of ATV safety, grain bin safety, skin cancer prevention, CPR training, the importance of PTO shafts, chemical safety and many more.

DIVISION UPDATES



AG BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The Agriculture Business Development Division began in 1919 as the Marketing Bureau Division of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture. Today, the Division's staff help create opportunities for Missouri's farmers and agribusinesses to build and expand their operations.

AgriMissouri

AgriMissouri™ was established in 1985 and promotes more than 1700 members' food, farm and agriculture products and experiences through a variety of marketing and promotional efforts. The program also offers training and educational opportunities to help members grow and maintain profitable businesses. This year, AgriMissouri focused on creating new opportunities for businesses interested in exporting their Missouri products.

Specialty Crop Block Grants

The Missouri Department of Agriculture selected 13 projects across Missouri to receive funding provided by the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. The funds awarded total more than \$314,000 for Missouri projects to enhance the competitiveness of Missouri grown specialty crops.

Farmers' Markets

This year, the Department helped local residents establish new farmers' markets in Eldon, Cape Girardeau, Shelbyville, Grant City and Hannibal. Throughout the state, Department staff work with market managers at more than 220 farmers' markets to ensure vendors are well informed on food safety, regulatory requirements and have the tools they need to create a vibrant market environment and economy.

Farmers' market managers, vendors and community leaders also have a new resource to guide their efforts - the Farmers' Market Handbook. The handbook provides a one-stop-shop, linking to more than 100 regulatory services and agencies on a product-by-product basis. It is also a complete guide to state and federal regulations that typically affect farmers' markets and links users directly to the agencies, forms, regulations and local health departments that enforce those laws in the local area.



**BY THE NUMBERS:
THERE ARE MORE
THAN 1,700
AGRIMISSOURI
MEMBERS.**

DIVISION UPDATES



ANIMAL HEALTH

The Division of Animal Health, under the direction of Missouri's State Veterinarian, is responsible for identifying, controlling and eradicating livestock disease in Missouri. Missouri is divided into nine districts, each with its own veterinarian who works in conjunction with Missouri's State Veterinarian to develop and implement disease control programs that best suit the needs of Missouri's livestock producers.

Trichomoniasis

The Department continues to work with livestock producers to raise awareness of the bovine venereal disease trichomoniasis in Missouri, as the disease can have a devastating impact on calving. The number of positive herds has steadily declined since 2011. In 2012, Missouri tested thousands of samples from producers and buyers in Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas and other states at the Animal Health Laboratory in Springfield using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technology.



Electronic Brand Book

The Missouri Department of Agriculture's directory of more than 6,400 unique livestock brands is now available online at mda.mo.gov. The new, electronic version of the Missouri Brand Book features an easy-to-use search tool that allows users, including law enforcement and market professionals, to look up brands by the owner's name or location, as well as the counties in which the brand is used, the brand's position on an animal and the letters and numbers comprising the brand. The electronic directory is continuously updated as brand registration applications and renewals are received, ensuring that Missourians have the most accurate, complete information available at all times.

Public Concerns

This year, the Department initiated a new tracking and response system for tips from concerned citizens about animals living in substandard conditions. Staff in the Division of Animal Health received more than 200 reports of animals, from horses and cattle to dogs and cats and many other species as well, living in substandard conditions. Each and every report was investigated by one of the Department's district veterinarians or animal health officers, often in conjunction with local law enforcement officers and local animal care organizations.

BY THE NUMBERS:
MISSOURI IS HOME TO
4.25 MILLION HEAD OF
CATTLE AND 3 MILLION
HOGS.

DIVISION UPDATES

Pet Spay & Neuter Grants

The “I’m Pet Friendly” Pet Spay & Neuter Grant Program is funded through the sales of the “I’m Pet Friendly” license plates, as \$20 from the sale of each plate goes to support spay and neuter initiatives for animal shelters and low income pet owners. The program was founded in 2009, and 2012 was the fourth year for the grants. Ten organizations throughout Missouri were each awarded \$2,000 to provide low-cost spay and neuter procedures and subsidize the cost of adoptions from local animal shelters and rescue groups in their communities, bringing Missouri’s total contribution to more than \$85,000.

NAHLN Status

The Missouri Department of Agriculture’s (MDA) Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory qualified as a member of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN). The laboratory, located in Springfield, has been a resource for Missouri livestock producers to test their animals for a wide-range of diseases since 1949.

The NAHLN began 10 years ago with the mission of safeguarding animal health by detecting animal diseases earlier, responding rapidly during an outbreak and coordinating an appropriate recovery effort. Through the NAHLN, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is able to partner with state or university operated animal health laboratories to standardize testing data and train laboratory technicians.



Spay & Neuter Grant Recipients:

Independence Animal Shelters
Independence

Animal F.A.I.R.
Sedalia

Warrensburg Animal Shelter
Warrensburg

Karma's Black Dog Rescue
Kansas City

St. Joseph's Animal Control
St. Joseph

Creative Communities
Dexter

BARC
Fenton

Perry Animal Welfare Society
Perryville

Spay Neuter Assistance Program
Independence

Ava Area Animal Welfare League, Jr.
Ava

DIVISION UPDATES



GRAIN INSPECTION & WAREHOUSING

Missouri's Grain Inspection and Warehousing Division administers the Missouri Grain Warehouse Law, the Missouri Grain Dealer Law and the United States Grain Standards Act to promote and protect commerce in the interest of grain producers, merchandisers, warehousemen, processors and consumers. There are 358 licensed grain dealers in the state and 158 warehouses, all of which are regulated by the Missouri Department of Agriculture.



Grain Inspection Services

Missouri's Grain Inspection Services is licensed by the Federal Grain Inspection Service branch of USDA to grade the following grains and commodities: Corn, Soybeans, Wheat, Sorghum, Oats, Rough Rice, Brown Rice, Milled Rice, Edible Beans and Lentils.

Grain inspectors also provide grain grading schools throughout the state. During Grain Grading Schools, participants receive samples of commonly seen grain damage and basic grain grading tips to better evaluate grain at their locations and in the field.

**BY THE NUMBERS:
358 GRAIN DEALERS &
158 WAREHOUSES ARE
REGULATED BY THE
MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE.**

Ag Mediation Service Available

The Missouri Ag Mediation program began in 2002 and offers a low cost alternative to litigation by assisting Missouri farmers in settling disputes with USDA agencies, other farmers or lenders. The Missouri Ag Mediation program may be used to settle disputes over farm loans, farm and conservation programs, wetland determinations, the Rural Housing Loan program, rural water, grazing on national forest system lands and pesticides.

DIVISION UPDATES



PLANT INDUSTRIES

The work of the Division of Plant Industries began in 1929 under the Missouri State Board of Agriculture. Today, the Division works to prevent the spread of invasive and harmful insects and plant diseases, registers pesticides, licenses pesticide applicators, ensures label accuracy and quality of commercial feeds and seeds, and inspects fresh fruits and vegetables.

Pesticide Applicator Training Program

Anyone working with pesticides, from farmers to commercial applicators to dealers, can attend the Pesticide Applicator Training Program each January. Classes are held throughout the state, and new for 2012 educational materials for the program were all available online, allowing participants extra opportunities to review the material and prepare for certification exams. More than 7,700 people participated in the 2012 certification program, hosted by the Missouri Department of Agriculture and University of Missouri Cooperative Extension Service.

Red Invasive Fire Ants

The Missouri Department of Agriculture worked with staff from the University of Missouri Cooperative Extension Service and USDA to raise awareness and prevent invasive red fire ants from coming into Missouri this summer. The hay many farmers purchased from southern states to feed their livestock during the extremely dry conditions often came from areas with known populations of the biting, stinging insect and the ants pose a serious threat to agricultural operations, livestock, crops and even agricultural equipment. The Missouri State Highway Patrol also joined in the effort to educate haulers about the risks of transporting hay and other supplies from areas quarantined by the USDA.



*Photo courtesy of
Scott Bauer, USDA
Agricultural Research
Service.*

**BY THE NUMBERS:
MORE THAN 7,700 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN THE
PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING PROGRAM
THIS YEAR.**

DIVISION UPDATES

Emerald Ash Borer

The Missouri Department of Agriculture works with USDA, Army Corps of Engineers and the University of Missouri as well as the state departments of Conservation and Natural Resources to survey for and address the Emerald Ash Borer's presence in the state. The borer is a one-half inch long, emerald green-colored beetle, which feeds on ash trees and has been found in Wayne, Madison, Reynolds and Platte counties.

In an effort to prevent the accidental spread of this invasive pest, Carter, Iron, Madison, Reynolds, Wayne and Shannon counties in Southeastern Missouri and Platte and Clay counties near Kansas City have been quarantined. The quarantine restricts the movement of many ash wood products. Affected products, which may not be moved without first entering into a compliance agreement through USDA-APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine, include any part of an ash tree, from logs and green lumber, to compost, bark and chips, as well as ash nursery stock and all hardwood firewood.

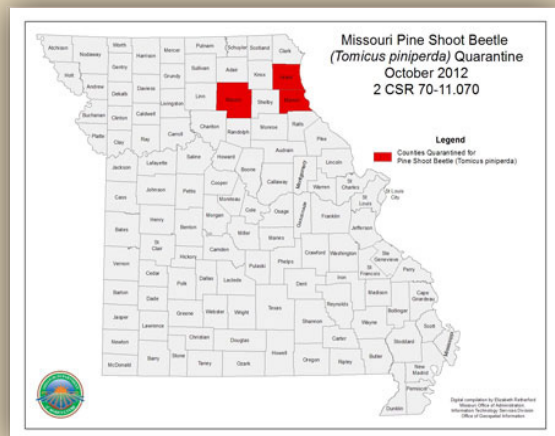


The Department also manages outreach efforts to encourage consumers to burn firewood within 50 miles of where the wood was harvested and to choose a variety of trees for their landscape plants.



Pine Shoot Beetle

The Pine Shoot Beetle was discovered during a routine bark beetle survey conducted by the Missouri Department of Agriculture during the summer of 2012.



A native of Europe and Asia, the beetle feeds on new pine tree shoots, stunting the growth of the trees. Missouri is home to nearly 225,000 acres of forest pine valued at \$482 million, all of which could be destroyed by the beetle.

Following finding the invasive Pine Shoot Beetle in northeast Missouri, the Missouri Department of Agriculture issued a quarantine limiting the movement of pine products from Macon, Marion and Lewis counties to reduce the spread of the match-head sized beetle.

DIVISION UPDATES



WEIGHTS, MEASURES & CONSUMER PROTECTION

The Division of Weights, Measures and Consumer Protection maintains surveillance of commercial weighing and measuring devices, just as it did when the Weights and Measures Division became part of the Missouri Department of Agriculture in 1943. The Division works to achieve equity between buyers and sellers in the marketplace, enhancing consumer confidence, enabling Missouri businesses to compete fairly at home and abroad, and strengthening state and U.S. economies.

Renewable Fuels

Interest and emphasis on renewable fuels is growing in the United States, and the Department is taking a lead role to make sure all fuels, including ethanol and biodiesel, meet safety and quality standards. Through testing and inspections, Department staff ensure that consumers receive the product they select at the pump each time they fill their tank and that new and existing facilities meet the highest safety standards.

Consumer Protection

The Consumer Protection team worked hard in 2012 to ensure consumers can continue to count on receiving the high quality food and fuel products they purchase, whether at the pump or at the grocery store. The Department conducts routine inspections and addresses consumer complaints. Success stories include:

Propane Tanks

A company selling propane began filling their large tanks with less product while only notifying customers in fine print. The Department made sure customers were aware of the subtle change with new signage placed on the propane cages throughout the state.

Frozen Seafood

Grocery stores regularly sell frozen foods and the Department works day-in and day-out to make sure all foods are properly weighed. A frozen seafood company was recently found to be including ice in their sale weight and the Department followed up with the company to correct their package labeling.



**BY THE NUMBERS:
THE DEPARTMENT
INSPECTS MORE
THAN 77,000 GAS
PUMPS EVERY SIX
MONTHS.**

BOARD AND COMMISSION UPDATES



MISSOURI STATE FAIR

The Missouri State Fair provides entertainment and information to hundreds of thousands of visitors every year. From live music to livestock exhibitions, the State Fair is a showcase for the best in Missouri agriculture and the State's premiere agricultural event. This year marked the 110th anniversary of the Fair.



Attendance

Final attendance numbers for the 11-day event confirm that more than 353,700 people attended this year's fair, up from just over 343,000 in 2011. The 2012 Missouri State Fair included more than 28,000 livestock and competitive entries and involved more than 4,000 Missouri 4-H and FFA youth participants. Every Missouri county was represented at the Fair, through competitive entries, special exhibits and events.

Larry Look-Alike Contest

New for the 2012 Missouri State Fair, a Larry Look-Alike Contest was held in conjunction with a concert by Larry the Cable Guy. The event drew a crowd of more than 300 to the Touchstone Energy Tent as 35 participants dressed the part and gave their best impression of Larry the Cable Guy. Rick Noack of the St. Louis area was selected as the winner and was given backstage passes to meet Larry just before he went on stage. In addition to the contest, fairgoers could complete a scavenger hunt in the "Git-R-Done Challenge" which guided participants through the top ten places to visit while at the Missouri State Fair.

Special Awards

The Missouri State Fair has been recognized as one of the premiere agricultural showcases in the world by the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE). During the recent IAFE convention, Missouri's state fair received more than 30 awards.

The Missouri State Fair was recognized for its competitive exhibits and agricultural education, and communications and sponsorship efforts. Among the more than 30 honors, the Fair received Awards of Distinction in the Competitive Exhibits competition and the new Innovations in Sponsorship competition. Both categories recognized only one fair in each of the five divisions.

The Missouri State Fair vied for awards with U.S. and international fairs and festivals with similar attendance. The Missouri State Fair is one of IAFE's more than 1,200 domestic and international members.

BOARD AND COMMISSION UPDATES



MISSOURI AGRICULTURAL & SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority (MASBDA) promotes the development of agriculture and small business and to reduce, control, and prevent environmental damage in Missouri by providing additional sources of financing at interest rates below conventional rates. The Authority issues agricultural development bonds, tax-exempt small issue bonds, guarantees on loans to livestock producers and direct loans for animal waste treatment systems. The Authority also administers grant and tax credit programs related to value-added agricultural projects, breeding livestock and increasing beef production.



Director of Agriculture Dr. Jon Hagler announced the new High Tunnel Loan Program Jan. 31, 2012 at The Salad Garden, an organic farm near Ashland, Mo.

MASBDA Programs

- Missouri Value-Added Grant Program
- Agribusiness Revolving Loan Fund
- Alternative Loan Program
- Animal Waste Treatment System Loan Program
- Beginning Farmer Loan Program
- Eligible Facility Borrower
- High Tunnel Loan Program
- Missouri Livestock Feed and Crop Input Loan Guarantee Program
- Missouri Value-Added Loan Guarantee Program
- Single-Purpose Animal Facilities Loan Guarantee Program
- Crop and Livestock Loan Guaranty Program
- Agricultural Product Utilization Contributor Tax Credit
- Family Farm Breeding Livestock Tax Credit Program
- New Generation Cooperative Incentive Tax Credits
- Qualified Beef Tax Credit Program
- Missouri Rural Economic Stimulus Act

BOARD AND COMMISSION UPDATES



MISSOURI WINE AND GRAPE BOARD

The Wine and Grape Board is responsible for researching, developing and promoting Missouri grapes, juices and wines. The Board's programs provide professional advice to Missouri grape growers and winemakers, applied research for developing grape varieties and cold hardiness studies and consumer education to increase awareness of Missouri grapes and wine industry.



**BY THE NUMBERS:
THE MISSOURI WINE
AND GRAPE BOARD
HAS 119 REGISTERED
WINERIES AND NINE
WINE TRAILS IDENTIFIED,
SUPPORTING MORE THAN
14,000 JOBS.**

Governor's Cup Award

Each year, the Governor's Cup awards recognizes outstanding Missouri wines. The 2012 top honor was awarded to Stonehaus Farms Vineyard & Winery for their Strother Ridge Vignoles. The award recognizes the best wine in the state and was determined by a panel of judges. During the course of the two-day competition, eight national judges from across the U.S and one industry judge tasted 297 wines before awarding the Governor's Cup honors to Stonehaus.

Stonehaus is located in Lee's Summit, just 20 minutes south-east of downtown Kansas City. The family owned winery opened in 1997 and provides a country setting where visitors can enjoy award-winning wines and a panoramic view of the vineyard and berry farm.

Vingoles is one of Missouri's most versatile white grapes and can produce wines that range from dry to sweet. Vingoles' luscious floral aroma and fruity flavors of pineapple and apricot make this citrus white wine a favorite among Missouri's wine-buying public.

Overall, 47 gold medals were awarded along with 87 silver and 82 bronze medals. The C.V. Riley Award for best Norton went to Montelle Winery with their 2009 varietal.

BOARD AND COMMISSION UPDATES



STATE MILK BOARD

The Missouri State Milk Board administers milk regulatory sanitation programs in Missouri and plays a key role ensuring food safety. It first became a part of the Department of Agriculture in 1972 to encourage sanitary production, transportation, processing and grading of fluid milk and processed milk products for consumption intrastate as well as interstate. Today, the Board operates under cooperative agreements with FDA and USDA and performs dairy plant and farm inspections, equipment testing, trainings and consultations that assure uniformity of procedures and uninterrupted interstate supply of safe and wholesome milk products.



Starting a Dairy in Missouri

In 2012 the Department, in conjunction with the University of Missouri Extension's Commercial Agriculture Program, published a guide on how to start a dairy in the state of Missouri. Suggested steps include researching potential markets, contacting the University of Missouri for guidance and the Departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources for permitting purposes, submitting building plans to local authorities and setting up a consultation and inspection from the State Milk Board.

Baetje Farms, LLC-Value Added Agriculture

At the 2012 World Cheese Awards, this AgriMissouri member was awarded four medals for their Artisan goats' milk cheeses, including a Super Gold for "Bloomsdale," a Baetje Farm original recipe. Steve & Veronica Bartje pride themselves on producing pure Artisan Farmstead cheeses and raising their own goat herd in Ste. Genevieve, Mo. Their hard work has landed their products on the shelves of grocery stores like Whole Foods, Dierbergs and many wineries.

BY THE NUMBERS: THE STATE MILK BOARD OVERSEES MORE THAN 1,300 DAIRY FARMS AND 40 PROCESSING FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

MEDIA OUTREACH & SOCIAL MEDIA



AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Department's communications team is responsible for collecting and responding to all media inquiries, photography, videography, blogging printed material, social media management and website content for all brands of the Department including AgriMissouri.

Media Inquiries

This year, the Missouri Department of Agriculture's communications team addressed more than 400 unique inquiries from members of the media and published approximately 100 press releases and media advisories. This year, half of all media inquiries came from only seven topics: special events & initiatives, animal care, drought, AgriMissouri, grants & financial assistance, meat inspection and agricultural exports & growth.

Social Media Overview

On social media, the Department's blog, Think Outside the Barn, was visited more than 25,000 times in 2012. Department staff posted nearly 300 blogs about special events, news, Missouri agribusinesses, livestock and crop markets, and continued the popular Friday Fixin's recipe feature. The Department's Facebook presence grew by more than 50 percent this year (from 794 'friends' in 2011 to nearly 1230), and the Department's Twitter following grew by more than 30 percent (from just under 1,000 at the end of 2011 to more than 1350).



1228
FRIENDS



1354
FOLLOWERS

2012 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW



AGRICULTURAL POLICY IN MISSOURI

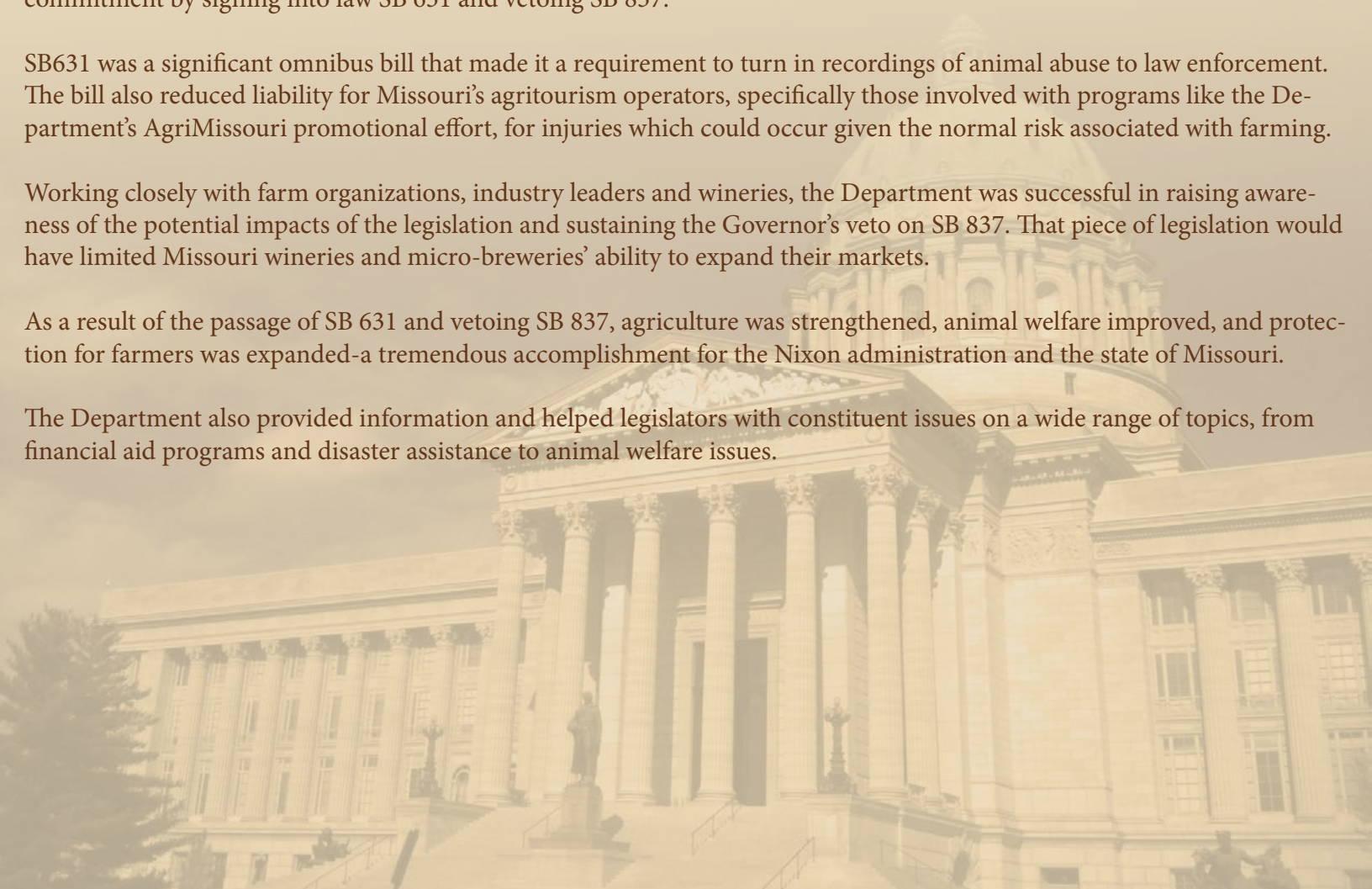
Governor Nixon's commitment to agriculture was made clear in his first inaugural address when he recognized that Missouri could not move forward unless agriculture moved forward. In 2012, Governor Nixon once again made good on that commitment by signing into law SB 631 and vetoing SB 837.

SB631 was a significant omnibus bill that made it a requirement to turn in recordings of animal abuse to law enforcement. The bill also reduced liability for Missouri's agritourism operators, specifically those involved with programs like the Department's AgriMissouri promotional effort, for injuries which could occur given the normal risk associated with farming.

Working closely with farm organizations, industry leaders and wineries, the Department was successful in raising awareness of the potential impacts of the legislation and sustaining the Governor's veto on SB 837. That piece of legislation would have limited Missouri wineries and micro-breweries' ability to expand their markets.

As a result of the passage of SB 631 and vetoing SB 837, agriculture was strengthened, animal welfare improved, and protection for farmers was expanded-a tremendous accomplishment for the Nixon administration and the state of Missouri.

The Department also provided information and helped legislators with constituent issues on a wide range of topics, from financial aid programs and disaster assistance to animal welfare issues.



AGRICULTURE GRANTS

In 2012, the Department of Agriculture received and administered a total of 41 awards in the form of competitive grants, cooperative agreements and contracts totaling \$10,791,972.

Missouri Agricultural Energy Savings Team (MAESTRO)

Grant Award: \$5,000,000

This statewide program is designed to reduce costs by improving energy efficiency on small Missouri livestock and poultry farms. The program serves farms that do not require a confined feeding operation permit.



Food Safety

Grant Award: \$1,237,000

The Missouri Department of Agriculture strengthened its focus on food safety in 2012, and in partnership with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services received more than \$1.2 million in federal funding. The grant funds will help Missouri address food safety issues from the farm to the consumer and better respond to food safety emergencies by training producers, as well as state and local staff, on a wide-variety of food safety issues.



National Food Animal Veterinary Institute

Grant Award: \$500,000

The Missouri Department of Agriculture is helping address the national short-age of food-animal veterinarians in partnership with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Missouri Western State University and leaders from the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor. The unique partnership received a \$500,000 grant from USDA Rural Development to create a business plan and pilot program to advance the training of animal health professionals. The National Food Animal Veterinary Institute will be based in St. Joseph, Mo.

Emerald Ash Borer Outreach

Grant Award: \$100,000

Since the 2008 discovery of EAB in Missouri, a multi-agency team of state and federal plant pest experts have worked together to minimize the impact. The EAB Outreach program works to educate the public on how EAB is spread, and how to identify and report potential new finds. The EAB Outreach program has included a statewide media campaign and first-detector trainings to raise public awareness.

National Organic Certification Cost-Share Program

Grant Award: \$85,000

This program, supported nationwide by \$5 million in federal funds, allows state organic programs to reimburse each eligible producer or handler for up to 75 percent of their organic certification costs, up to \$750 for each type of certification.

Missouri Thousand Cankers Disease Survey

Grant Award: \$25,108

Thousand Cankers Disease of Walnut has recently been discovered to be causing mortality in walnut in at least eight western states, as well as in eastern Tennessee. Missouri has the potential to be greatly impacted, as the disease is particularly lethal to black walnut and Missouri has over 55 million black walnut trees, more than twice the number of any other state. This grant will support survey efforts throughout the state to determine whether the disease is impacting Missouri's walnut trees.

AGRICULTURE GRANTS

Missouri has received funding for 62 projects through the federal Specialty Crop Block Grant program since 2007 for a total of \$1,746,179.40. Of those, 21 have been completed and many more are ongoing. The 2012 grant recipients are as follows:



Cultivate Kansas City

Grant Award: \$15,000

Growing, marketing and distributing locally produced specialty crops

Missouri River Bluffs Association

Grant Award: \$30,000

Developing regional foods database, marketing campaign for locally grown foods and educational Farmers' Market events

Missouri Wine & Grape Board

Grant Award: \$25,000

Increasing winery tourism and wine sales

Menorah Legacy Foundation

Grant Award: \$15,000

Campaigning for locally grown food to be made available to low-income families

Western Nursery and Landscape Association

Grant Award: \$15,636

Educating Missouri nursery crop growers to help them understand SITES requirements

Gateway Greening-St. Patrick Center

Grant Award: \$24,000

Teaching urban agriculture program called City Seeds

Saint Louis University

Grant Award: \$50,000

Establishing a teaching orchard emphasizing organic growing techniques

In2Action

Grant Award: \$29,636

Increasing production, accessibility and awareness of honey

Webb City Farmers' Market

Grant Award: \$16,194

Providing conference including presentations and tours covering specialty crop issues

EarthDance

Grant Award: \$24,817

Informing low-income and minority individuals' of specialty crop benefits

University of Missouri

Grant Award: \$20,884

Exploring minimal nitrogen applications on chestnuts



Missouri State University

Grant Award: \$25,000

Expediting Norton grape breeding efforts to improve quality of Missouri wines

Lincoln University

Grant Award: \$23,197

Investigating organic options to manage two insects and monitor four insects

DIRECTOR'S MEETINGS

Abengoa
AdFarm
Advance Military Solutions
America Animal Owners
Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM)
Attorney General's Office
B&C Processing
Buchanan County
Cargill
Central Missouri AgriService
Cervid Stakeholders
Community Foundation of Northwest Missouri
Conservation Federation of Missouri
Food Export Midwest
Gallagher Consultants
Gavilon, LLC
Greater Springfield Farmers' Market
Humane Society of Missouri
Humane Society of the United States
Interim Commission on Ag Innovation and Economic Recovery
Journal Communications
Kansas City Mayor's Office
Livestock and Farm Protection Task Force
MFA Incorporated
Missouri Agribusiness Association
Missouri Ag and Small Business Development Authority
Missouri Alliance for Animal Legislation
Missouri Beef Industry Council
Missouri Cattlemen's Association
Missouri Corn Growers Association
Missouri Department of Conservation
Missouri Department of Economic Development
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
Missouri Department of Labor
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Missouri Department of Transportation
Missouri Development Finance Board
Missouri Farmers Care
Missouri Foundation for Health
Missouri Pork Association
Missouri Poultry Federation
Missouri Soybean Association
Missouri State Fair Commission
Missouri State Fair Foundation
Missouri State Highway Patrol
Missouri Wine and Grape Board
MoBroadbandNow
Monsanto
National Food Animal Vet Institute Board
Nature Conservancy
Oakwood Medical Investors
Office of Administration
SCOPE
Show Me Energy Cooperative
St. Louis City Health Department
St. Louis University
T.W. Medlin Farms, Inc.
Truman State University
Tyson Foods
University of Missouri-College of Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
University of Missouri-President's Office
USDA - National Ag Statistics Service
USDA - Rural Development
Victory Enterprises
Volare & Connecting, LLC
Zimmer Real Estate Services



DIRECTOR'S EVENTS

January

International Education Summit, Jefferson City, Mo.
2012 Agricultural Industry Study - Missouri State University, Jefferson City, Mo.
Local Foods Grant Presentation - Walnut Park Community Garden Club, St. Louis, Mo.
MLK Event, Jefferson City, Mo.
2012 Governor's Conference on Agriculture, Kansas City, Mo.
MO Farmers Market Association Annual Meeting, DeSoto, Mo.
High Tunnel Program Funding Announcement, Ashland, Mo.
Great Northwest Day, Jefferson City, Mo.
Missouri Corn Growers Association Annual Business Meeting, Jefferson City, Mo.

February

Missouri Coalition of Minority and Women Business Owners Public Policy Trip 2012, Jefferson City, Mo.
Cape Girardeau Area Chamber of Commerce - First Friday Coffee, Cape Girardeau, Mo.
Town Hall Meeting (Rep. Billy Pat Wright), Dexter, Mo.
NASDA Midyear Meeting, Reston, Va.
2012 Midwest Grape & Wine Conference, St. Charles, Mo.
Wild Game Banquet, Park Hills, Mo.
Truman State University's Mid-Missouri Alumni Chapter Legislative Reception, Jefferson City, Mo.
Nichols Career Center's FFA Breakfast, Jefferson City, Mo.
MO National Guard AG Development Team (ADT) Training, Jefferson City, Mo.
Western Farm Show, Kansas City, Mo.
Missouri Farm Bureau Legislative Conference, Jefferson City, Mo.
NWMSU Collegiate Farm Bureau Speaker Forum, Maryville, Mo.

March

Missouri Minority & Limited Resources Farmers' Conference, Jefferson City, Mo.
MO-AG Legislative Banquet, Jefferson City, Mo.
Turkish Business Delegation, Jefferson City, Mo.
Missouri State Beekeepers Annual Meeting, St. Louis, Mo.
Ag Class from Truman University, Jefferson City, Mo.
Consolidated Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting, Mexico, Mo.

April

Harvest for Hunger Wrap-Up Event, St. Louis, Mo.
4th Annual Missouri Auctioneer Contest, Vienna, Mo.
Coro Fellows Program in Public Affairs, Jefferson City, Mo.
CAFNR's Celebration of Excellence Awards Banquet, Columbia, Mo.
Trade Mission to Brazil, São Paulo & Brasília, Brazil
Lebanon Rotary Club Meeting, Lebanon, Mo.

May

2011 Governor's Cup Presentation, Jefferson City, Mo.
Governor Proclamation Signing for 150th Anniversary of USDA, Jefferson City, Mo.
Launch of The Great Missouri Buzz Off, Get Your Buzz On, St. Louis, Mo.
Missouri Government Internship Program - Truman State University, Jefferson City, Mo.
Addressing Rural Education Issues: A State Conversation, Kansas City, Mo.



DIRECTOR'S EVENTS

June

Missouri Farm Bureau's State Resolution Committee Meeting, Jefferson City, Mo.
Show-Me Missouri Back Country Horsemen's Land Manager Trail Ride, Black, Mo.
MASDA Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, Ind.
Presentation of C.V. Riley Award, Hermann, Mo.
National Holstein Convention, Springfield, Mo.
Pet Spay & Neuter Grants Presentation, Springfield, Mo.
Missouri Legislative Black Caucus Conference, Kansas City, Mo.

July

Bollinger County Chamber of Commerce Meeting, Marble Hill, Mo.
Pet Spay & Neuter Grants Presentation, Perryville, Mo.
Heartland Apiculture Society Meeting, St. Louis, Mo.
Pet Spay & Neuter Grants Presentation, Lee's Summit, Mo.
Drought Tour-Greg Sharpe's Seed Business, Ewing, Mo.
Drought Tour-Brook Hurst's Farm, Tarkio, Mo.
Drought Tour-Monty Wheeler Family Farm, Bolivar, Mo.
2012 POA National Congress Horse Show, Lake St. Louis, Mo.
Farmington Chamber of Commerce's Industrial Luncheon, Farmington, Mo.
Greater Springfield Farmers Market Award Event, Springfield, Mo.
Announcement of Emergency Cost-Share Program-Dan Pehle Farm, Mexico, Mo.
Announcement of Emergency Cost-Share Program-Springfield Livestock Market, Springfield, Mo.
Emergency Water Assistance Program Update-Joplin Regional Stockyards, Joplin, Mo.
Emergency Water Assistance Program Update-United Producers, Inc., Maryville, Mo.
Emergency Water Assistance Program Update-Kingsville Livestock Market, Kingsville, Mo.

August

Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting, Springfield, Mo.
Missouri State Fair, Sedalia, Mo.
Opening Ceremony-2012 Missouri State Fair, Sedalia, Mo.
2012 Focus on Missouri Agriculture Photo Contest Awards Presentation, Sedalia, Mo.
Bee Week in Missouri Proclamation Event, Sedalia, Mo.
Century Farm Publication Unveiling Event, Sedalia, Mo.
Military Appreciation Day Ceremony, Sedalia, Mo.
54th Annual Farm Family Day, Sedalia, Mo.
Macon Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting, Macon, Mo.
MDA Wine Reception, Sedalia, Mo.
Governor's Ham Breakfast, Sedalia, Mo.
State of Missouri Drought Emergency Management Meeting, Sedalia, Mo.
First Lady's Pie Contest, Sedalia, Mo.
Groundbreaking Event for MFA Arena, Sedalia, Mo.
Sale of Champions Event, Sedalia, Mo.
KC Homecoming Hoedown 2012, Kansas City, Mo.
Graves-Chapple Research Center Field Day, Fairfax, Mo.
USDA Undersecretary Scuse visit to Martin Prairie Farms, Weaubleau, Mo.
Soil & Water Project Tour-Ted & Barb Sheppard, Cabool, Mo.
Soil & Water Project Tour-David Higgs Farms, Windsor, Mo.
Quality Beef by the Numbers-Program Announcement, Columbia, Mo.
Delta Research Center Field Day, Portageville, Mo.

DIRECTOR'S EVENTS

September

Perry County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, Perryville, Mo.
Emergency Cost-Share Program Announcement-New-Mac Rural Electric Cooperative, Neosho, Mo.
Emergency Cost-Share Program Announcement-Southwest Electric Cooperative, Springfield, Mo.
Emergency Cost-Share Program Announcement-Howell-Oregon Electric Cooperative, West Plains, Mo.
NASDA Annual Meeting, Des Moines, Iowa
Livestock Biotech Summit, Kansas City, Mo.
Pork Month Proclamation & Luncheon, Jefferson City, Mo.
Sikeston Chamber of Commerce Meeting, Sikeston, Mo.
Gascosage Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting, Dixon, Mo.

October

Paseo-Cargill Energy Facility Expansion, Kansas City, Mo.
St. James Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership Dinner, St. James, Mo.
Ribbon Cutting for New Grain Elevator, Canton, Mo.
Governor's Award for Agricultural Achievement-Stark Bro's Nurseries and Orchards, Louisiana, Mo.
Tour Trinity Marine Facility and Launch New Barge, Caruthersville, Mo.
Governor's Award for Agricultural Achievement-Charles Parker of Parker & Jones Farms, Senath, Mo.
Governor's Award for Agricultural Achievement-Rick Scheer of Scheer Family Dairy Farm, New Haven, Mo.
Governor's Award for Agricultural Achievement-Charlie Schlottach of White Mule Winery, Owensville, Mo.
Governor's Award for Agricultural Achievement-Warren Stemme of W. Stemme Farms, St. Charles, Mo.
Governor's Award for Agricultural Achievement-Otto & Wanda Williams of WW Ceder Company, Vienna, Mo.
Governor's Award for Agricultural Achievement-Terry & Myrna Geiler of Rolla Horse Auction, St. James, Mo.
Governor's Award for Agricultural Achievement-Bob & Gretchen Thompson of Glengrove Farm, Rolla, Mo.

November

2012 AFA Leaders Conference – Track 3 Executive Forum, Kansas City, Mo.
2012 Freshman Ag Policy Course, Columbia, Mo.
Agriculture Leaders of Tomorrow (ALOT) Annual Meeting, Columbia, Mo.
Veterans Day Assembly, Hartville, Mo.
2012 Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Meeting, Osage Beach, Mo.
Missouri Corn Growers Association Fall Board Dinner, Jefferson City, Mo.

December

USDA Agribusiness Trade Mission, Moscow & St. Petersburg, Russia
Missouri Legislative Black Caucus – State Administrative Briefings, Jefferson City, Mo.
Strengthening the National Rural Veterinary Infrastructure Conference, Kansas City, Mo.
Northwest Missouri State University's Winter 2012 Commencement, Maryville, Mo.
Crop Management Conference, Columbia, Mo.



2012 DEPARTMENT HONOREES



Outstanding Partner Award

The Missouri Corn Growers Association recognized the Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority (MASBDA) with the 2012 Outstanding Partner Award for their support of Missouri farm families and agribusinesses.

Tony Stafford, Executive Director of MASBDA, accepted the award on behalf of the board.



National Chairmanship

Hayes, Division Director for Department's Weights, Measures and Consumer Protection Division, became the national chairman of the Fuels and Lubricants subcommittee for the National Conference on Weights and Measures in 2012. Ron was awarded the prestigious Distinguished Service Award by the NCWM at the 97th annual Meeting after nearly 25 years of membership and three years as Chair. He is also officer on the NCWM Board of Directors and a past-chairman of the Motor Fuelulation Working Group.

has been with the Department since 1976 and began his career as a grain moisture spectator, assisting the Department in the development of that program.

Employee Awards

Every few months, the team at the Missouri Department of Agriculture is asked to nominate the best of the best among their peers for special recognition as "Employee of the Quarter" at the Department. Recipients were recognized by the Director and received a framed certificate.

Employee of the Quarter Recipients:

Melissa Bushdiecker-Plant Industries
Janet Carel-Weights, Measures and Consumer Protection
Kimberly Deal-Grain Inspection & Warehousing
Dave Johnson-Plant Industries
Dennis Noring-Plant Industries
Linda Stokes-Animal Health

MDA Employee of the Year

Christine Tew, with the Agriculture Business Development Division, received this year's Employee of the Year award.

MDA Manager of the Year

John Albert, with the Weights, Measures and Consumer Protection Division, received this year's Manager of the Year award.





2012